(iv) All the State/Union Territories Government have been requested to implement the recommendations of the Policy Advisory Groups on wood substitution and fuelwood conservation.

(v) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purposes without prior approval of the Central Government.

(vi) A total of 13,900 sq. km of the forest area of North Eastern States has been declared as National Parks and Sancturies.

(vii) Central assistance of Rs. 2.85 crores has been given to State of Meghalaya in 1993-94 and 1994-95 for acquisition of private lands for extension and restoration of Elephant habitate.

Rail Fare Concession to Senior Citizens

*233. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been persistent demands for extending the fare concession to senior citizens in respect of different classes of,rail travel above second class;

(b) if so, Government's decision in this regard; and

(c) the estimated loss of revenue per annum in case the travel concession to senior citizens are extended in respect of travels upto second class-AC-two tier and three-tier?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to financial constraints, it has not been possible to extend the concession to higher classes.

(c) if the concession is extended to A.C. two tier and A.C. three tier classes, the approximate loss on this is estimated to be Rs. 10 Crores per annum.

Recruitment in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

*234. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD.
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that promotional quota for different categories of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is filled first and recruitment for open quota (direct quota) follows thereafter; and

(b) the reasons and justification, if any, for not adhering to the said provision with regard to recruitment to the post of LDCs?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SR. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) In accordance with the guidelines approved by the Board of Governors of the 'Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, the following is the sequence in respect of promotional posting/transfer etc. of teachers including Vice-Principal, Principal and above:—

(1) Posting on promotion;

(2) Intra-regional Transfer;

(3) Intra-regional Transfer;

(4) Posting on direct recruitment.

No guidelines regarding the sequence for posting of non-teaching staff including the posts of LDCs have been laid down.

Protection of Jantar Mantar

*235. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the "Times of India", dated October 20, 1996 captioned "Unitech's shadow over Jantar Mantar";

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure that no high building is constructed within 100 metres of a protected monument and no construction takes places withour obtaining a "No objection certificate" from Archaeological Survey of India (ASI); and